

Tennessee Pollution Prevention Partnership Success Story



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Beneficial Reuse of Foundry Sand

The Member

Lodge Manufacturing Company supports the American Foundry Society, a national non-profit organization headquartered in Des Plaines, Illinois. The AFS is the leading metal casting association of North America, providing leadership in government relations and provides the membership with education and information on technology, marketing, management, human resources, and research.

The Story

The Environmental Committee of the Society's Tennessee Chapter worked together with the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation's Division of Solid Waste to request and help draft a beneficial reuse policy for non-hazardous foundry sand. Larry Bowers, the Environmental Committee Chairman at that time and Environmental Manager for N.A.R. Wheland Foundry, led the effort of the group that included Eureka Foundry, Lodge Manufacturing, Mueller Company, U.S. Pipe & Foundry, Powermatic Industries, Camden Castings, and Vestal Manufacturing. The committee worked from existing policies and environmental studies from other states to help draft a proposal to the Division of Solid Waste. The University of Tennessee Center of

Industrial Services was instrumental in this endeavor. Albert Tieche, UTCIS Solid Waste Program Coordinator prepared a foundry survey and assisted in providing research for the project.

The Success

On April 22, 1996, the Division of Solid Waste Management adopted a policy to facilitate the beneficial use of nontoxic spent foundry sand in a manner that is protective of the public health and environment. The survey indicated there were 219,000 tons per year of non-hazardous spent sand that could be diverted from landfills. The true success is in the fact that industry and government worked together for the common good all concerned and the environment.

The Pollution Prevented

The policy made unnecessary land filling of usable, recyclable materials a viable option for the foundry industry. As this sand can be used in approved projects, the environment is spared unnecessary disturbance to generate fill materials from natural sources.

It Just Keeps Getting Better....